Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown below. Please cancel claims 5, 13, and 19 without prejudice or disclaimer. This Listing of Claims will replace prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing device comprising:

inputting means for inputting an image;

detecting means for detecting a face region in the input image;

histogram generating means for generating a first histogram of the entire input image and a second histogram of the detected face region;

calculating means for calculating a highlight point and a shadow point of ~~an~~ the input image from ~~a~~ the first histogram of the entire input image;

first generating means for generating a gradation correction based on the highlight point, the shadow point, a target highlight point and a target shadow point;

conversion means for converting the second histogram based on the highlight point and the shadow point;

~~detecting means for detecting a face region in the image;~~

determining means for determining a representative luminance of the detected face region based on ~~a~~ the converted second histogram of the detected face region~~, the histogram of the face region being corrected based on the highlight point and the shadow point~~;

second generating means for generating an exposure correction based on ~~a histogram of~~ the representative luminance; and

correcting means for correcting the input image based on the gradation correction and the exposure correction.

2-11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) An image processing method comprising:

inputting an image;

detecting a face region in the input image;

generating a first histogram of the entire input image and a second histogram of the detected face region;

calculating a highlight point and a shadow point of ~~an~~ the input image from ~~a~~ the first histogram of the entire input image;

generating a gradation correction based on the highlight point, the shadow point, a target highlight point and a target shadow point;

converting the second histogram based on the highlight point and the shadow point;

~~detecting a face region in the image;~~

determining a representative luminance of the detected face region based on the converted second ~~a~~ histogram of the detected face region, ~~the histogram of the face region being corrected based on the highlight point and the shadow point~~;

generating an exposure correction based on ~~a histogram of~~ the representative luminance; and

correcting the input image based on the gradation correction and the exposure correction.

13-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The image processing device according to claim 1, further comprising rotating means for rotating the input image in accordance with a posture in a photographic information of the input image.

17. (Currently Amended) The image processing ~~method~~ device according to claim ~~5~~1, wherein the second generating means calculates a γ value based on the representative luminance and ~~the~~ a target luminance.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium for storing computer-executable process steps of an image processing device comprising:

inputting an image;

detecting a face region in the input image;

generating a first histogram of the entire input image and a second histogram of the detected face region;

calculating a highlight point and a shadow point of ~~an~~ the input image from ~~a~~ the first histogram of the entire input image;

generating a gradation correction based on the highlight point, the shadow point, a target highlight point and a target shadow point;

converting the second histogram based on the highlight point and the shadow point;

~~detecting a face region in the image;~~

determining a representative luminance of the detected face region based on ~~a~~ the converted second histogram of the detected face region~~, the histogram of the face region being corrected based on the highlight point and the shadow point~~;

generating an exposure correction based on ~~a histogram of~~ the representative luminance; and

correcting the input image based on the gradation correction and the exposure correction.

19. (Canceled)